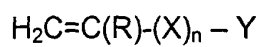


Amendments to the Claims:

The listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

Claim 1 (Original) Oral care composition comprising a polymer obtainable by copolymerising a mixture of comonomers, in which at least 40 mol% of the mixture of comonomers is constituted by a comonomer having the formula (I):



in which R is hydrogen or a methyl group, X is a divalent organic linking group, n is an integer of 0 or 1, and Y is a carboxylate or phosphonate anion, or the corresponding salt or acid thereof;

and in which the balance of the mixture of comonomers is constituted by neutral and/or cationic comonomers;

said composition being in the form of any one of a toothpaste, gel, foam, chewing gum, deformable strip or mouthwash and being suitable for use in the oral cavity.

Claim 2 (Original) Oral care composition according to claim 1, in which the anionic comonomer is selected from mono-2-(methacryloyl)ethyl succinate and vinyl phosphonic acid.

Claim 3 (Original) Oral care composition according to claim 2, in which the neutral and/or cationic comonomers are selected from styrene, [2(methacryloyloxy)ethyl]trimethylammonium chloride, 2-hydroxyethylacrylate, N-[tris(hydroxymethyl)methyl] acrylamide, N-vinylpyrrolidone,

(ar-vinylbenzyl) trimethylammonium chloride,
N,N-dimethylacrylamide and mixtures thereof.

Claim 4 (Original) Oral care composition according to claim 3, comprising a polymer obtainable by copolymerising a mixture of vinyl phosphonic acid, [2(methacryloyloxy)ethyl]trimethylammonium chloride and 2-hydroxyethylacrylate.

Claim 5 (Original) Oral care composition according to claim 3, comprising a polymer obtainable by copolymerising a mixture of vinyl phosphonic acid and N-[tris(hydroxymethyl)methyl] acrylamide.

Claim 6 (Currently Amended) Process for preparing an oral care composition according to ~~any one of claims 1 to 5~~claim 1, comprising the steps of:

preparing a mixture of comonomers ~~as defined in any one of claims 1 to 5~~ in an ethanol/water diluent;

polymerising the mixture by heating it under inert gas in the presence of an initiator;

extracting the polymer so obtained and blending it with one or more oral care actives and/or excipients so as to produce an oral care composition which is in the form of any one of a toothpaste, gel, foam, chewing gum, deformable strip or mouthwash and which is suitable for use in the oral cavity.